

"Go care for him who has borne the battle, and for his widow and orphans."

The National Tribune.

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THEY may put another man in Senator Hanna's place, but it will be a long time before one is found to fill it.

UNDETERRED by England's sad experience in South Africa, Russia is sending her Dukes to command her troops.

THE silence that Senator Teller maintains as to the Sharfthorpe incident is so deep that it can be felt.

SO FAR the nearest approach to agreement among the Democrats has been upon Judge Miers (Ind.) for the Vice-Presidency.

THEIR being no inauguration this year, the people of Washington are at a loss to understand the persistence of this bad weather.

"I AM one of those," says Mr. Cleveland, "who believe that there is an opportunity for Democratic success in the coming Presidential election." Seven months is a pretty short time to patch up the tearing and rending of 12 years.

"TARIFF reform should be demanded," says Mr. Cleveland. Certainly. Let the Louisiana Democrats begin by demanding the removal of duties on sugar and rice; Florida on oranges and lemons; the Kentuckians and Missourians on hemp; the whole South on tobacco, and so on.

THE Casarevitch, which the Japanese torpedos sank at Port Arthur, was the finest vessel of the Russian navy, and one of the very finest battleships in the world. She was built in 1901, was of 13,000 tons displacement, 18 knots speed, and carried four 12.4 inch guns, 12 six inch, 20 three inch, and 24 small guns.

THE digging of the Erie Canal in 1826 changed the whole arrangement of the United States, building up New York, Philadelphia and Boston at the expense of Southern States, and the West, at the expense of the South Atlantic seaboard. The construction of the Panama Canal will again alter the arrangement, building up New Orleans, Mobile and Galveston, and the cities of the Mississippi Valley.

IT WILL be gratifying to the veterans to learn that one by one the competitors of Senator Scott (W. Va.) have recognized the strong preference of the people for him, and are withdrawing from the race, leaving no prospect of any serious opposition to his reelection. Senator Scott, besides being a leader in the Senate and of great value to West Virginia and the country, is a faithful and zealous comrade who wears his bronze button with pride and a full sense of its obligations.

IT is interesting at this time to know that we have a fairly large trade with Russia, and that it is increasing more rapidly than that with any other European country. The increase is most marked in raw cotton and agricultural implements. In 1901 we sold Russia \$2,498,823 of raw cotton, while in 1903 the amount had risen to \$3,170,000. Agricultural implements show a large but not so great an increase. In 1901 we sold \$1,602,597, and in 1903, \$3,636,145. Our copper has increased, but our iron and steel manufactures have fallen off. The aggregate of the trade is, however, quite small as compared with that of other countries, being only about \$20,000,000 last year.

RUSSIA is far more Asiatic than European, more yellow and brown than white. While there is a strong strain of German and Scandinavian blood in the dominant classes in Russia, the bulk of the people in the European part of the empire are Slav—people so different from the European races that some ethnologists do not class them together. Their heads and faces are shaped differently, their hair, skin and racial tendencies quite dissimilar. Serbians, Bulgarians, Poles, Bohemians and the Hungarian immigrants to this country are types of the Slavs. In the vast extent of Russia east of the Ural Mountains there are all varieties of races, colors, and degrees of civilization, running down to the absolute savage. These are far nearer to the Chinese than to European peoples. Nor are the Japanese yellow men of the Chinese type. Their origin is mysterious, and certainly not from the same source as the Chinese. Some writers claim that they are the product of an amalgamation of the Tartars from what is now Russian territory, and the Malays coming up from the Philippines. They are as distinct from the Chinese and other yellow races, as the negro is different from the white man. They have none of the Chinese mental characteristics, and in place of allying themselves with China, are much more likely to fight the Chinese with the same antipathy that the white races show.

THE following from Ex-Gov. Stanley of Kansas, describes only too truly what is going on in all parties in all States:

"I presume it is generally known in Kansas how ungraciously I was betrayed last Winter by men to whom I had given all the political prominence they had and whose loyalty I had supplied with bread and meat. . . . While I made mistakes, there is only one thing I look back upon with very great regret, and that is the manner in which I placed of allying myself with a party to a deal which cost me the loss of my seat in the legislature. I have always been clear of games of thimble-rigging and third-hand monte, and I feel somewhat humiliated that I became a party to a deal which cost me all confidence games I ever have known."

AN AFFAIR BUT NOT A TREATY.

A number of the papers opposed to service pension are sounding the howl, and beating the tom-tom most industriously by the assertion that the Grand Army of the Republic and the veterans are threatening Congress and the President, in order to force the passage of the service pension bill. The object of this is quite obvious, being to arouse hostility against the veterans as a class.

This is absolutely untrue, wickedly false. The advocates of the service pension bill place it on a far higher plane, and the only true one. It is an appeal, a reminder, to the great, generous-hearted American public, as to a National duty. No one authorized in any way to speak for the veterans of the war of the rebellion is making any threats, or giving any warnings. They are simply refreshing the National memory as to the terrible of the gigantic war to save the Nation; of the unspeakable strains endured by the men who for four long years fought that war; of the results which their valor and fortitude won, and which should make them particularly deserving of the affectionate care and gratitude of the millions who are now reaping in unexampled fullness the rich rewards of the victory. They are pointing out that if the American people want to show their grateful appreciation of all that was then done for them, now is the time to do it, when the soldiers of that great war, prematurely aged by the hardships and strains of the conflict, are being crowded out of the avenues of profitable employment by the younger generation, and are dying at the rate of 1,000 every week.

The people can not help it that these survivors of the grand armies of the Republic are now getting old and unfitted for labor; they can not help it that the younger and more vigorous generation is pushing them to one side wherever salaries are to be earned or wages paid. But the people can make a partial return for the lavish expenditure of these men's youthful strength and vigor in the country's service, and they can show an appreciation which will make the gift far more rich by allowing each of these men for their remaining years the meager stipend of \$12 a month, or \$3 a week, which will insure every one of them against actual want, with the same to the widows of those who have died.

It seems only necessary to say what these men were, what they did, and what their condition now is to finish the argument and bring an overwhelming assent from the people that they should be given what is asked for them. If we could take the average individual soldier and present his case to the public, there could be no doubt of the instant verdict that he should be entitled to an allowance of at least \$3 a week for the rest of his life.

That individual—the average soldier—was a young man from 18 to 25 years old, a mechanic or a farmer skilled in his vocation, vigorous and healthy, an energetic worker, and therefore a first-class wage-earner. He had a home, friends, and a sweetheart whom he was expecting to become his wife and make for him a happy home. He was looking forward to an industrious, thrifty life, which would gain for him and her a comfortable subsistence, and make provision for their old age. At the country's urgent call he renounced all thoughts of present enjoyment and resigned all future hopes to enlist in its service. He had the hard trade of a soldier in his blood. He drilled incessantly, was herded with others in camps; he gave up the pleasures and associations so dear to youth; he racked his body by exposure to the storm, by marches pushed to the uttermost extent of his power, and by daily and nightly facing the most appalling dangers on picket, the skirmish line, and in battle. Years of this experience in a war of unexampled bitterness and obstinacy sapped his powers and shortened his life. When victory brought peace he came home as prematurely old as a forced tree or shrub, and though he endeavored to take up life again where he had left it, it was a very difficult thing. He found himself in disadvantageous competition with those who had grown up during the war or who had migrated to this country, and who were not weighed by the load that his service had put upon his youthful energies. The passing years added to this natural handicap by his competitors. For years his manly pride forced him to keep abreast of those associated with him by sheer strength of will. He could overcome for a while the seeds of disease sown in his system by the malarious swamps of the Mississippi; by the long race under a hot sun to head off Lee at Gettysburg; by the pitiless blasts while he stood guard on the bleak Cumberland; by the icy torments he waded in the march through the Carolinas. He had taken all these blastments uncomplainingly, even eagerly, without a thought of the future, because at that time they were necessary, and the necessary thing was the thing he did, regardless of the consequences to himself. But as he grew older his vital force weakened, and he could no longer by sheer will-power overcome the tyrannical drafts upon his vitality. Now he has passed the meridian of life when all hope of betterment is futile, and he can only look forward to making the best of what remains to him. Every day he sees his comrades dropping around him and can not help knowing that their fate must soon be his.

The passage of the service pension bill is therefore not a matter of strict balancing of accounts, with so much in the debit column, and so much in the credit. It is not a thing that should be recovered from the Government as a suit in the civil courts, and an execution levied for the amount; it is a case in equity; it is an appeal to the conscience of the Nation; it is a plea for grateful recognition; it is a request to the great American people who are now enjoying a prosperity such as never came before to the people of this earth, to think at what fearful cost they now have been purchased by the untold expenditure of these men's young manhood and to give from the rich take at which our people sit, some crumbs of comfort to those whose age and infirmity prevent their sharing in the sumptuous feast.

The veterans and all friends of the veterans feel that if the American people can be awakened to the memories of all this, that there will be no hesitation whatever in the adoption of such a measure of decency, justice and gratitude as the Service Pension Bill to make sure that no man who served and helped to save the country shall lack the necessities of life.

In his declining years. Only those small souls are opposed to it who are organically incapable of comprehending the sentiments of gratitude and justice.

PROBABLE REORGANIZATION OF PARTIES.

To the student of history it appears likely that there is to be a total reorganization of the parties, with the Democratic party dying, as the Federal party did after the War of 1812, and as the Republican party did in the '50's. Two new parties may develop out of a division of the Republican party. The factions of the defunct Democracy may join with the wings of the Republican party which approach nearest their ideas. This has always been the manner of reorganization. Along in the '20's, when the Federal and the Republican parties dissolved, part of the Federalists and part of the Republicans united to form a Whig party, while part of the Federalists united with the Jacksonian wing of the Republicans to form the Democratic party. In the '50's the Free-Soil Democrats and Whigs joined to create the Republican party, while the Pro-Slavery Whigs united with the Pro-Slavery Democrats to continue the Democratic party with new principles and aims.

The "Solid South" is all that keeps the Democratic party alive to-day, and it is united in name only. In matters of State policy the Democrats of the South are still united, but there are bitter factional feuds at work which will inevitably result in a division. On National issues the Southern Democrats are as bitterly divided as they are in the North. This was illustrated by the recent revolt against Senator Gorman's leadership. No man so far suggested, and none that the wisest among them can suggest, can be mentioned as a possible leader without at once provoking a storm of dissent from one section or another. In this respect, the party seems much worse off than the Federals were in Madison's and Monroe's administrations, or the Whigs during those of Polk and Pierce. In the latter case, the Whigs still had men like Webster, Clay, Scott, and others of eminence, who had worlds of devoted friends eager to see them President. In every State there were Whigs of great ability, men of light and learning, who were good Presidential timber, but the Whigs could not unite on any one of them. They were gotten to unite upon Zachary Taylor, whose Whigism was somewhat obscure, but whose brilliant victories at Buena Vista and Monterey were made a sufficient platform. The Democrats are incomparably poorer off in this respect than the Whigs were then, because there are in their ranks no men of the National standard that Clay, Webster, Scott, Fillmore, Reverdy Johnson, Thomas Corwin, Alex. H. Stephens, or Winthrop were in the Whigs, and nowhere, neither in Congress nor in any State, does any young man seem to be rising upon whom the mantle of leadership is likely to fall.

The Russian army is raised by universal conscription on something of the German plan. Every year about 870,000 young men reach their 21st year, of whom something over 200,000 are taken for the active army, and the remainder are in the reserve. The men in the active army have to serve five years, after which they pass into the first reserve, where they serve five years more, and then they pass into other reserves until they are 43 years old. While in the service the Government gives them a fair amount of coarse food, strong, coarse garments, and rude, though tolerably comfortable barracks. The pay is miserable, being about one cent a day, or less than \$4 a year. From this a soldier is expected to provide himself with what tobacco, spirits and other luxuries he may desire. The Russian officers are paid even less than the German officers, and, of course, very much less than Americans of the same grade. A Lieutenant gets \$200 a year, where our Lieutenants get from \$1,400 to \$1,800 a year. A Russian Captain receives \$300 a year, where ours get \$2,000; a Major, \$450, where ours receive \$2,500.

The latest statement puts the actual strength of the Russian army on a peace footing at 42,000 officers and 1,000,000 men, with the possible war strength of 750,000 officers and 4,500,000 men. This is all very problematical, however, since it is not after all the number of men a country has, but the number it can put in the field and supply, and with all Russia's greatness of territory and population, she is in fact a very poor Nation, and can not arm, clothe, move and feed anything like as many men as some much smaller countries.

JAPAN'S ARMY.
The Japanese army is recruited by compulsory service on the German plan, all males between the ages of 17 and 40 being liable to service. Young men arriving at the age of 20 are required to serve three years in the army, or four in the navy. After this they pass for four years into the first reserve, and then go into the landwehr, in which and in the land-sturm they remain until they are 40 years old.

The latest statement, Dec. 31, 1900, as to the strength of the army showed that in the active army there were 167,620 officers and men, which, with the reserves and landwehr available for immediate service and to recruit the active army, would raise it to a total of 632,007.

A SUBJECT for one of Gilbert and Sullivan's operas is the situation in Kansas, where Wm. Rudolph, who is now serving a term in the penitentiary, is wanted in Missouri to answer a charge of murder. It is claimed that he can not be taken to Missouri for trial unless the Governor of Kansas gives him a pardon, and Mr. Rudolph, modestly diffident about facing a jury of his Missouri fellow-citizens, declares himself well satisfied with the hospitality of the Kansas penitentiary, and declines to accept a pardon. The authorities of the two States are said to be gravely considering the matter, which shows how lawyers muddle things of the clearest common sense. The plain, everyday man would say that there should be no difficulty whatever, since the Governor of Kansas, having the pardoning power, can discharge Rudolph from the penitentiary, or give him a furlough long enough to try. A convict can not refuse a pardon, nor can he remain in the penitentiary longer than the authorities choose to keep him there. It is not a matter about which he has anything to say. He was sent there against his will, and he can not remain longer than the State chooses to hold him. This is common sense; but, as Horace Greeley once pitifully remarked, "being common sense, is probably not law."

When Johnny Came Marching Home.

The Rebel's Story of the Desperate Fighting at Fort Gregg.

"I don't think I can ever make you understand how we felt at the time Richmond fell," said Mahlon Spear, taking an easy position on the blankets, with the tin-cup of coffee still in his hand, while the boys sat down cross-legged around him, around him to listen. All Russell had finished dressing his wound, which added immensely to the comfort imparted by the coffee and the breakfast. "The feeling began to come over us after the first two days' fighting in the Wilderness, and it grew with every day of that terrible battling back to Petersburg. The Army of the Potomac wouldn't go back as it had always done before. When it followed us we couldn't stop it, as we had been doing. It was now on us, as untiring and merciless as a bloodhound. Every hour, every minute—night and day—light or dark, rain or shine—it was in front of us, around us, turning our flanks, and getting in our rear—the cannon thundering, the rifle cracking—men falling. No rest, no safety, no time, nowhere. When we weren't marching we were fighting or digging. When we marched it was into another fight. When we dug the holes we were striking around us, killing and wounding the men with the spades. When we lay down to sleep it was with the expectation that we would be aroused to go into another fight. There was no stopping the Army of the Potomac—no shaking off the Yankees. The more we killed of them the more they killed of us. After about a month of this kind of thing, we came wild; after three months, despairing; in six months, desperate."

"It certainly was sufficient to cause great anxiety and distress of mind, and be injurious and damaging in numberless ways," remarked Monty Scruggs, with lawyer-like oratorical.

"To say nothing of the depressing effect upon the nerves, the vital organs, and the medical-minded Air Russell," added the medical-minded Air Russell.

"It was even worse after they settled down regularly to the siege of Petersburg, and the gloom of winter came on. We had snow, sleet, rain, mud and hunger. Death was ever-present. Every day our company grew smaller, as men were killed, or dragged themselves, worn-out, to the hospital, and found no rest in the grave. There seemed no other end for it all except death, and only a question of time when we should follow those who had gone before. Poor, heart-sick devils who tried to slip away home, or over to the Yankees, were caught, and shot with great show and ceremony before the whole army, to warn the others against attempting such a thing. And the gloom of winter came on. We had snow, sleet, rain, mud and hunger. Death was ever-present. Every day our company grew smaller, as men were killed, or dragged themselves, worn-out, to the hospital, and found no rest in the grave. 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